

# NEWLY RECOGNIZED POLITICAL PARTIES

R. S. 18:441, 18:551(D), and 1461(A)(6)

The Green, Libertarian, and Reform parties have fulfilled all the requirements in R.S. 18:441 and are now **recognized political parties**. This means that Louisiana now has five (5) recognized political parties:

Democratic	Enter “ <b>D</b> ” on qualifying form
Green	Enter “ <b>G</b> ” on qualifying form
Libertarian	Enter “ <b>L</b> ” on qualifying form
Reform	Enter “ <b>M</b> ” on qualifying form
Republican	Enter “ <b>R</b> ” on qualifying form

The qualifying form (QF-42) data entry screen in the State Elections computer will now include the ability to enter the letter codes as noted above.

The other two “party” letter codes are:

- **N = No Party:** use this designation if a candidate has **NO AFFILIATION** with a political party of any kind, and the words “No Party” will be printed on the qualifying form. On the ballot, the words “No Party” will appear beside the candidate’s name.
- **O = Other:** use this designation if a candidate is affiliated with a political party that is NOT RECOGNIZED; this is all parties **other than Democratic, Green, Libertarian, Reform, and Republican**. When you enter “**O**” on the entry screen, you will be prompted to type in the name of the party, which will be printed on the qualifying form. The ballot will be blank beside the candidate’s name.

Political parties must become recognized 90 days prior to the opening of qualifying in order to have their party name on the ballot.

**The Libertarian party became recognized on February 16, 2005; therefore, during the qualifying period this week (August 10-12) candidates may choose to be qualified as affiliated with the Libertarian Party.**

The other two new parties, Green and Reform, became recognized too late to be included in the qualifying period this week, and candidates will not be eligible to have those two party names on the October 15 and November 12 ballots.

The qualifying period of February 8-10, 2006 for the April 1, 2006 and April 29, 2006 elections will include all five parties. (same for Orleans Parish, whose qualifying period is December 14-16, 2005)